# TWO KINDS OF HORROR

## A MINE GUARDED BY A GHOST

The Last Inca Stands in Front of the Peruvian Gold Mountain Where He Was Entombed.

NATIVES WILL NOT TOUCH THE RICH MINES

Most Valuable Gold Fields in the World Kept Unworked by this Indian Superstition.

THE MISSIONARIES TRY TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT

(Copyright, 1896.)

Twenty million dollars worth of gold yearly lies within easy reach of the capital of the United States. It is lightly buried in the mountains a little south of Texas, and not far past "the neck," as the strip of Central America that connects North and South America has been termed.

These gold mines are the easiest worked in the world and the richest in yield. Yet there they lie year after year, while gold is being laboriously mined in far countries. The mines have never been worked, and may be, never will be worked. And all on account of a ghost.

For a hundred years, since the destruction of the last distinct tribe of the Incas, the ghost of the lost tribes have haunted the mines. Laborers would not work there because troubled by mysterious spirits that annoyed them unceasingly. Picks would be spirited away, shovels would disappear, buckets were overturned and the shafts worked all awry. Time and again the mines have been reopened but always with the same results. Finally the work was abandoned to be renewed yearly and abandoned again.

Last week engineers appointed by the government visited these mines, and made an examination of them. From the roughest estimate that could be made by surface examination, they appraised the gold to be worth $20,000,000 annually. This did not estimate the amount probably in the ground, but only that within easy reach and sure. They reported the entire Carabaya Province of Peru underlaid with these mines, and estimated that, were work begun there, the most boundless wealth of the earth would be brought forth. A veritable mine of King Solomon, with more practical results and much nearer home!

The Carabaya Province is in the southern part of Peru, very near the coast. It is shut off from the rest of the country by high-peaked mountains, which are always covered with snow. In the sides of these mountains lie the gold mines. Visitors to the place have described the country as colder than Greenland, with the glittering gold reachable from any place on the mountain side. A gold harvest in a country of snow!

Years ago, when the Indians inhabited most of South America and North America, too, the Incas tribe owned this coast of Peru and hunted in the Andes Mountains. They were a wealthy tribe and the last to succumb to the inroads of other countries. They dug their metal, gold and silver, from the mountains and traded it off for that which they most needed.

When the new comers, the Spaniards and the French, drove them out and broke up the tribe it was the Incas that struggled longest and held out most manfully. At one period of settlement it was feared that this tribe would hold the Andes forever as a menace to the seaport places of South America and as permanent owners of the great gold mines there.

THE DEATH OF INCA.

There is a story told about the final driving out of the Incas. Their last chief, Inca, was a man deemed impenetrable. He led the raids into the mountains to drive back the encroachers. And he boldly captured game and hunted freely where others dared not go. Inca was a wise man and he knew that it was the gold mines that the Spaniards sought; so he determined that he would wall up the mines with impassable stone so that, take what part of the country they might, they could find no treasure to reward them.

For one year Inca labored with his strongest chiefs to hew the largest stones from the mountain sides, and for another year he toiled to get them in place. Each opening in the mountain side was to be closed; and where the richest veins lay there was to be a mountain ridge of stone built.

Finally all was completed but the last boulders. They were to be rolled into a tunnel at the foot of the Mountain Jesu, under which ran a vein bright with richest ore.

But in the night Inca awoke and repented thus sealing up so much treasure. He longed to enter the tunnel and feast his eyes upon the veins which would yield gold to all the Incas for generations to come; and rising from his couch he threw his blanket around himself and grasping a torch, entered the mountain by a secret entrance.

At first break of light the strong men of the tribe rose ready for their day's work. With prodigious effort they rolled the mighty boulders in place and sealed them with cement, and rolled smaller boulders in the cracks. Not an entrance from any side was left unguarded.

When the work was done they went to find their chief to show him their work, but Inca was nowhere to be found. He had wandered deep into the mine, and, falling asleep from weariness, was entombed alive. The boulder builders remembered seeing a distant light, but supposed it was a torch left from a miner's hand. Too late to rescue their chief, they remembered this.

This ghost is the one that guards the mines, and the natives believe that Inca came to life some day, and, recalling his tribe, gave them the buried treasure. They dare not touch it.

The people with whom the government has to deal in this excavation of the most valuable gold mines in the world are a mixture of races. Spanish, French, and Italian blend together. They speak Quichina, a mixture of Spanish, Indian, and Chinese. It is the most peculiar tongue ever heard, and no American has ever been able to acquire it. All work must be done through Spanish interpreters, half-bred with those who speak Quichina, or negotiations would never be carried on.

These natives are desperately poor. Living, as they do, in a country of constant cold, they need fuel, good food, clothing and shelter for their comfort. These they could obtain if they would work the mines that lie underneath their very feet. But no power has ever been able to make them do this. They are industrious, but they will not brave the ghost of Inca.

There is one section of mountain range further south that is being slowly worked. Here the men labor in the most primitive way. They hew the solid rock for twenty-four hours on a stretch. Then they go home and sleep and rest for twenty-four hours, while others take their places. They know nothing about the division of the hours of the day. One of the first duties of an engineering party is to teach them this, and they take more kindly to it than to other innovations.

There is another obstacle to the working of these mines, which invite American capital so strongly. And that is the contents of the earth beneath the feet of the toilers. The Incas, who occupied every available inch of the country with their settlements, had a custom of mummifying their dead.

WORKING IN HUMAN FLOUR.

No embalming fluids were employed. The soil is dry as powder, with absolutely no dampness. When an Indian died costly wraps were wound around him, his gold was placed in his mouth and in his hands, he was placed in a sitting position and a wicker basket was woven around him. In this way he was buried underneath the ground. Anywhere was his burial place, in the street, even under the floor of his house.

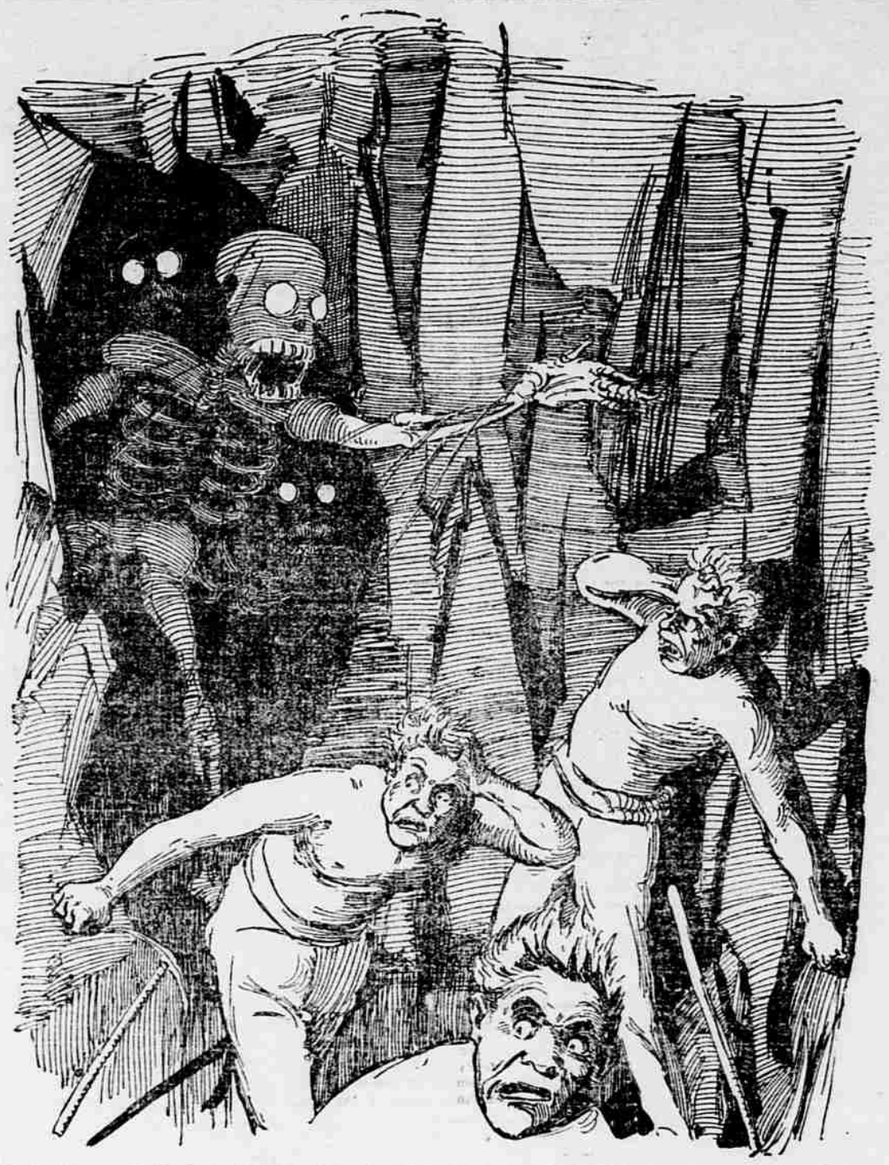
At the first touch of the shovel, in the attempt to build houses to make these natives comfortable, the dry dust flies up in awful quantity. Then there comes to light a mummy. Ghastly he looks, with even his skin preserved upon him, fine and dry, and almost white. His skull is bleached, but his body sits there all the more human and awful.

The dust that flies up is literally human flour, and the natives will not dig into it. The government people and capitalists assure them that there are places where no mummies will be found, but they throw down their spades and refuse to hunt for these free spots.

Again and again has American capital sought to get gold from the mines of Carabaya and Sandia. They will erect small houses, engage workmen at 10 cents a day (immense wages in South America) and sink their shaft and get ready for enormous gold yields. Almost the first night the men take alarm at the sounds and flashing lights, which they say are in the depths of the shaft. And in a second there are wild stories of seeing Inca and his tribe at the opening. Within a few days the stories have swelled so that the work must be abandoned. The only remedy is to take American labor there; this, the natives will not tolerate if any could be found to go.

While the metal agitation is going on in all parts of the world, and the struggle is to get metal and get enough of it, there lies within easy reach of the seaports and at the end of an easy journey across country, the richest gold country in the world—guarded by the ghost of a king.

ALBERT CAMERON.



"Shovels Disappear, Buckets Are Overturned, and the Shafts Wrecked, While the Ghost of Inca Stands Guard at the Mine."

## JACQUES CONSUMING BATTERY.

Experiments Show It Does Not Derive Its Energy From Carbon.

The most important recent developments in the scientific and industrial world were discussed at one of the regular monthly meetings of the Franklin Institute. The latest prominent feature of the scientific world is the Jacques carbon consuming battery, which produces electric energy, accounts of which were published some months ago. C. J. Reed gave an exhibition of the battery and a discussion of its action, together with a battery of his own invention, which he calls a "thermotropic battery." The Jacques battery, from apparently conclusive experiments shown last night, does not derive its electrical energy from the consumption of the carbon in the cell, as claimed by its inventor, but from the thermo-electric action of the combination, an iron pot containing cell and rod of carbon. Mr. Reed showed that other substances might be substituted for the carbon and very much better results obtained, namely, copper, iron, steel, aluminium, and German silver. Dr. Jacques, however, Mr. Reed pointed out, has produced in reality an improved form of thermo-electric couple, many times as efficient as the old form, where two dissimilar metals were welded together, and only a very small fraction of a volt could be obtained with some of the combinations shown. The thermotropic battery consists in one form simply of any metallic wire, cut at one point, and one of the ends thus made oxidized by heating in a flame for a minute. When this junction is heated by any source of heat electric currents are produced.

Albert S. Reed, of New York city, gave a brief resume of the plan and scope of the important experimental work now being carried on by the committee on fire-proofing tests, which is appointed by the Architectural League of New York, the Tariff Association of New York, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, to investigate and test methods of fire-proofing structural metal in buildings, in order to obtain data for standard specifications. Photographs of steel columns and cast iron pillars of various forms were shown, illustrating the effect of high temperature on them under full load. The lecturer remarked that it was his belief that very much higher temperatures were reached in conflagrations than we are accustomed to obtain by any artificial methods.

Examples of ductile cast iron, a new product, which has attracted considerable attention, were shown. This form of iron is made by a Chicago firm, which has already filled many orders. The process by which it is made is a secret one. Samples tested have shown a tensile strength as high as 84,000 pounds per square inch, while the average strength is stated to be about 60,000 pounds. As its name indicates, it is capable of being worked into shapes hitherto impossible except in wrought iron.

## INSURANCE AGAINST PRISON.

Securing Thieves Immunity Against Receiving Their Deserts.

*Answers.*

"Thieves are hardly a provident class as a rule," said a detective to the writer, "yet it may surprise you to know that there are a large number both of burglars and pickpockets who habitually insure themselves against capture and imprisonment. There are two or three men in the east end who do an extensive business insuring thieves. These pay a small weekly premium, varying according to previous 'stretchings,' and every conviction raises the rate. Very old and 'unlucky' offenders being often refused altogether.

"When a thief gets nabbed his insurance money usually goes to pay a 'mouthpiece' (or solicitor) to defend him. One of these fellows, a man of much their own class, has over fifty thieves insured with him for sums varying from £2 upward. He has a carefully compiled list of their convictions, and actually keeps books, in a primitive style, and he has found the money toward defending several criminals we've put in the dock.

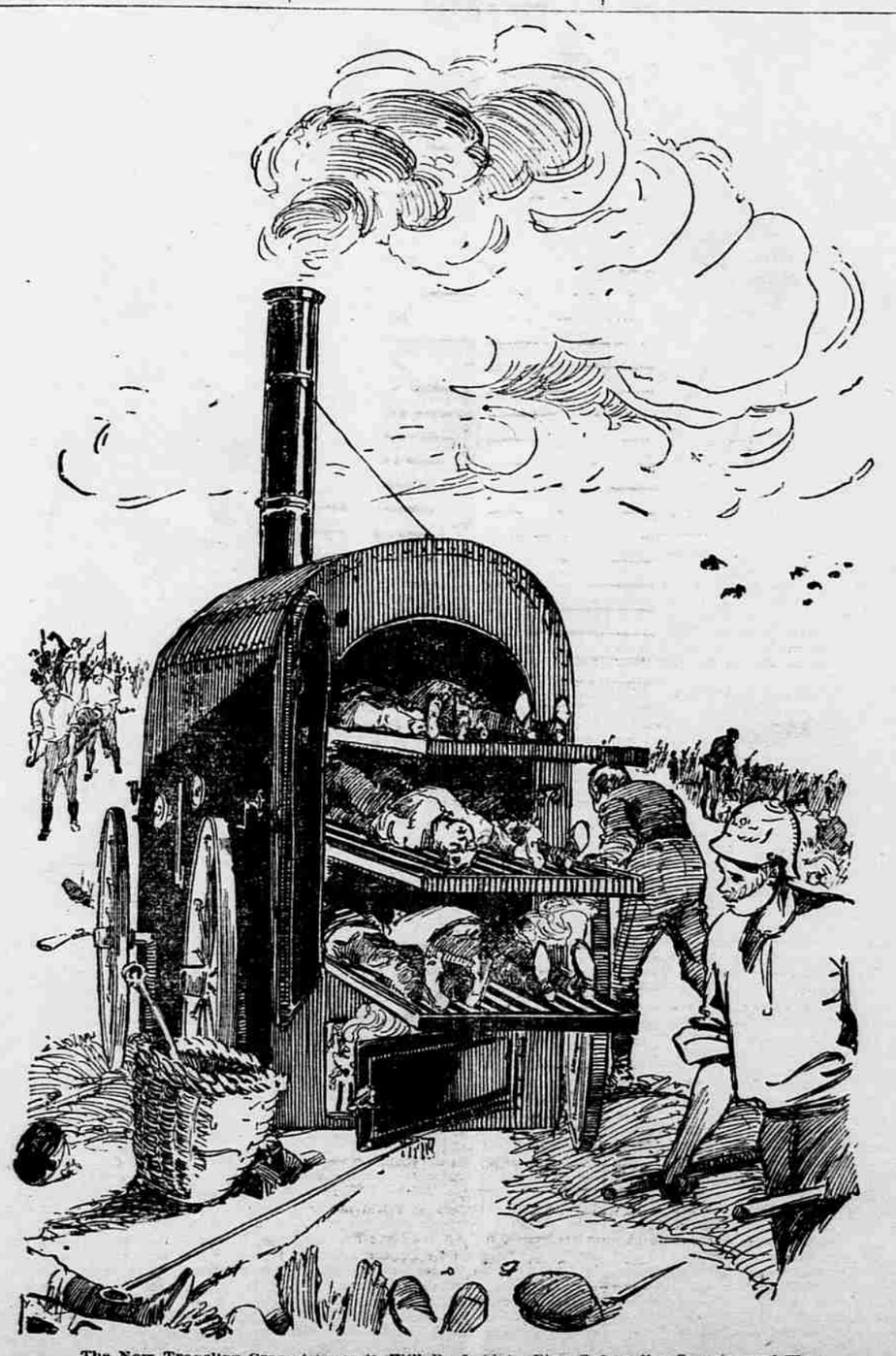
"Not long ago a notorious rascal was enabled by him to engage one of the sharpest police court solicitors, and was actually acquitted on a purely technical point; undefended he'd have got a heavy sentence.

"When a case is so black that no solicitor will defend it, the thief draws his insurance money on coming out of prison. A burglar I once caught in Hackney was insured with four different men, and after his sentence expired he drew from them in all about £45. He was nabbed again the next night on another 'job,' and had hardly a penny in his possession."

More Effective Methods.

"Papa, what do you call it when a lot of employes quit work?"

"It used to be called a strike, my boy, but now it's known as an explosion."—Detroit Evening News.



The New Traveling Crematory as It Will Be Laid in Plan Before the Secretary of War.

## A CREMATORY FOR THE ARMY

An Inventor Offers Secretary of War Lamont a Traveling One for the Battlefield.

CAN BE TAKEN IN PIECES AND PACKED UP

Heated in an Hour, and in Two Hours Will Turn a Soldier to Two Pounds of Ashes.

URNS USED FOR BRINGING HOME A SOLDIER'S REMAINS

Copyright, 1896.

Daniel S. Lamont, Secretary of War, will soon have laid before him the plans of a traveling crematory to incinerate the dead upon the field of battle. It is an unpretentious apparatus, but one of the long-felt wants of every army that goes into the field. In time of peace prepare for war; and the consideration of such a novel apparatus by no means forebodes immediate thought of its use. If adopted it will form part of Uncle Sam's reserve forces.

The objections to cremation do not apply to deaths upon the field of battle. Here sentiment, sanitation and common decency all cry out to have the poor defaced bodies of the dead disposed of as rapidly and thoroughly as possible.

After a battle the dead are left upon the field, while the remnant of the army marches or retreats. Or there is a hasty stop for the dead. Pits are dug, and the comrades shovelled in, often without burial ceremonies of any kind and without recognition. A slight covering of earth is all that can be done.

USED IN GERMANY.

A German inventor, Gustave Schiff, has made this traveling crematory for use in battle. It can also be put into services at other times and places. There are towns without crematories; health resorts that need them for their patients who come in what is known as the last stages; and there are cemeteries that would be glad to have such a contrivance when cremation is desired. But it is upon the battle field that the traveling crematory would come in best use.

The model of this crematory has been submitted to the Emperor William, who is much interested in all things of war, and drawings of it have been laid before the French and English heads of war departments.

The design of this crematory is for disposing of the bodies of the dead sanitarily and quickly by incineration. From the outside it looks like a great iron oven upon wheels, with a smokestack at the back. There are four wheels and a double sheet-iron door. Within are three sliding shelves and below is a fire.

The ancient method of cremation was a literal burning of the body by contact with fire. This is awful, because the action of the flames upon the body in the open air is slow and painful to the looker-on, no matter what is done to make it less awful. But with the recent method of cremation all the realistic horrors of actual burning are done away with. It is really an incineration, a reduction to ashes by the action of heat. The flames do not touch the body.

The traveling crematory is to be included in the impedimenta of war. It can be hitched to the rear of the baggage wagons or drawn by ordinary horses. Its weight is less than an ordinary truck and its projecting parts, cranks, chimney, and exterior fixtures can be taken off and laid inside while traveling.

There is another provision for transporting the crematory. It can be taken entirely apart, and its twelve pieces, sides, back, top, shelves and oven slides piled in a baggage car for transportation. The crematory is intended, however, to be left intact and carried around, for one of its principal features is that it is ready for use immediately.

The heating of a crematory takes ordinarily two hours. A great fire is made in the furnace or a petroleum burner lighted and the oven heated to a white heat.

About 1,200 degrees is the temperature best liked. Higher than that the ashes are darkened.

The oven of the traveling crematory can be heated to 1,200 degrees in an hour; and when the dead are gathered from the field the machine is ready for the incineration process.

In the crematories as they are in daily use in different parts of the world, the utmost care is preserved as to the heat, the conveyance of the body and the disposition of the ashes afterwards. The body is slid in its coffin from a shelf into the retort and the great door lined with fire clay is closed. The sides are of glass, and through them the relatives can watch the reduction of the body to ashes. The coffin crumbles first and becomes charcoal. Then the body succumbs to the heat and takes the form of pearl white ashes. If the oven is accidentally heated too hot the body turns to charcoal like the coffin, and a charred heap of dirty ruins are all that is left of it.

With the traveling crematory many of these difficulties are obviated. The heat need not be so carefully regulated as long as it reaches 1,200 degrees, and it can be allowed to go as much higher as the engine in the oven below will allow. Three thousand degrees have been obtained.

ON THE SLIDES.

The bodies will be gathered from the field and brought to the crematory in hand wagons. The door is opened and an operator at the side works a crank. Immediately the top shelf slides out and lowers itself to the ground like an inclined plane. Ready hands lift the bodies to the shelf, and a reverse turn of the crank draws the shelf in. The second one is lowered in the same way and finally the bottom one. The door is now closed and the heat left to do its work.

In the back of the apparatus is a glass window, through which the men in charge can observe the reduction of the bodies. When only ashes remain the door is opened, the shelves slid out, the ashes are removed, and the shelves reloaded with bodies.

It takes two and three hours to cremate a body in a regular crematory. This is according to the size of the body, the time for children being much less. Very large, heavy persons take longer to cremate. In the crematories an extra price is charged for them. Children under ten years are only $25. Stout, elderly persons are $35 and upward. These details are quietly settled by the officers of the crematory.

But with the traveling one upon the field of battle much better time is made. The entire crematory full of bodies can be incinerated in an hour. Experiments have been made with the bodies of lambs. With the retort heated as high as the machinery will allow, the work goes on very rapidly. Of course the ashes in this case are charred and black from the great heat, but this cannot be helped.

The arguments to be used by the inventor are, first, the sanitary properties of the crematory. The horrible conditions of battlefields will be brought forth, and the fact that they are practically useless ever after as cities. Also the unspeakable horror of the immediate after condition. After a battle the battlefield can be located miles away by the vultures that hover over it.

BURYING BATTLE HEROES.

Another argument will be the comfort it is to families to know their dead are disposed of decently. The terrible death hole into which battle heroes are swept in the hurry of the march has made many a soldier's last thought a torture. The danger of coming to life alone with the dead will also be banished; for, though it is not pleasant to think of being incinerated before death, it is a thousand times more agreeable than to think of returning to consciousness in a pit of the dead.

It is expected that there will be a wail of sentiment from the feminine relatives of soldiers. The warriors themselves will see the beauty of this crematory and urge it; but there is always a deal of old fogy sentiment which fight anything new.

The old orthodox argument against incineration was the reincarnation of the body. But since Heber Newton, Bishop Potter, Phillips Brooks, and Cardinal Newman refused to accept this as a literal argument against cremation there is less heard of it.

In the case of the dead soldier the reincarnation theory would not carry as much weight, for the body is already mutilated, and a shot-off arm or a leg lying lone and unclaimed upon the field would not offer much argument for the actual rising of the body.

An impressive burial can be conducted with the ashes of a crematory. These could all be gathered together and placed in an urn and brought home. The body of a full-grown man makes two pounds of ashes. For purposes of burial an urn could be filled with the ashes and brought home to be interred in the soldier's lot. There would then be a chance for the soldier's monument.

The expense of these traveling crematories would not be so very great. If our government wishes to have them in time of war they could be made quickly and easily. So simple are they of construction that the government engineers, appropriating Schiff's idea, could construct similar ones and improve upon them in small details. Many say this is the greatest step toward a rational disposition of the body that has yet been made.

JAMES BARTON.

## AGE OF THIS SPHERE.

Recent Excavations Show the World to Be Much Older Than Supposed.

*Baltimore Sun.*

According to scriptural chronology, the world is about 5,900 years old, the theory most generally accepted being that the creation occurred 4,004 years before the beginning of the Christian era. Professors Haynes and Hilprecht of the University of Pennsylvania, who have been conducting excavations in the ruins of the East, have recently made discoveries which seem to prove a high state of civilization 7,000 years before the birth of Christ.

Large numbers of stone tablets have been found in Nipur, the buried city of the Euphrates, which carry back human written history nearly 3,000 years further than any records heretofore known. Prof. S. A. Binion, an eminent archaeologist and Egyptologist, a member of the Biblical-Archaeological Society of London, says: "Not a doubt has been expressed as to the correctness of the dates of the tablets taken from the prehistoric Nipur and which have just been deciphered. Assyrian chronology up to the time of Sargon is not so much beset with obstacles as the Egyptian. Their scribes put down the dates, counting the years from the accession of various rulers.

The day of the month and the year are invariably given on these tablets, and as their months are lunar, bearing the same names and exactly corresponding to the present Jewish calendar, it is within easy reach of the chronologist." Nipur is upon the very spot where the garden of Eden is thought to have been situated and a few miles from the Tower of Babel. The ruins from which the tablets were excavated are under more than thirty-six feet of earth, upon the top of which were ruins of the ancient city of Nipur, regarded by archaeologists as one of the oldest known.

Both of these cities, one under the other, had the same name, although they were separated by more than 5,000 years of time. Professor Binon is of the opinion, in his interesting review of archaeological discoveries, that the first city of Nipur, the prehistoric city, was wiped out by the deluge described in the Bible. The excavations were begun in 1888, and through the munificence of friends of the University of Pennsylvania have been continued up to the present time. The explorers have been richly rewarded for their labors, although the result apparently upsets the reckoning of biblical scholars.